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T H E

High-Lander's

A N S W E R

T O T H E

L—d H—m's SP—CH.

AMong all the Notorious Heroes of Antiquity, few can be nam'd Parallel to those this Age has produc'd. *Thersites* (if any Credit can be given to *Homer*, the Prince of Poets) was one of the most Ill-natur'd, Railing Curs which ever trod on *Grecian* Ground; an Inveterate Enemy to the Government he liv'd under, because he never could be admitted to share in it. Some, I am afraid, among Us, make it their Business to follow his Example for no other Reason; or this S—ch had never been heard in the House of P—rs, and then surely never appear'd in the World in Print.

Now that I may the better lay open the Design, and shew the Disaffection of the Great Man who made this Harangue to the present Ministry (if the Design of any Man can be presum'd from his Words, which I am sure our Law affirms) with, or without his Leave, I shall make bold, first to lay his Words before you (that those who have not seen them, may read them here) and then to give you as plain an Answer, as possibly I can.

My Lords, says he, *I am very sensible to what Censure he exposes himself, who Addresses your L—ps in such a manner, at such a Time: But this being the only proper Place for me to mention what I have to offer of Complaint, I the more Confidently hope your L—p's Forgiveness.* I profess I thought his L—p had Expos'd himself to Censure sufficiently in his S—ch the last Sessions of P—t, to hinder the Oc—l B—l; and, for that Reason, that he would not have launch'd out again. He address'd their L—ps before; but how? With Shew of pretended Affection to Her Majesty, and several

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Flourishes

Flourishes of Rhetorick to impose upon the Nation, to make them believe him an hearty Lover and Admirer of his Queen, and a true Patriot of his Country; The Peace of which, most certainly, he never consults; or he would not have said so much in the Praise of His most Christian Majesty in his first S—ch; nor so much to the Disadvantage of the Scots in the second; unless he would persuade either the English to Revolt to France, or the Scots to transfer their Allegiance from the Crown of England. But now I think on't, he has no Office under Her Majesty, and by this Time he begins to despair of one, and therefore he Resolves to say something not to deserve one. So that he may very well cry out, *He's very sensible to what Censure he exposes himself, while he Addresses their L—ps not only at such a Time (while we have a truly English Queen upon the Throne) but in such a Manner, as would prove a Capital Crime, should he live and say the same in a less Merciful Reign.*

I would be far, continues he, *from detracting or lessening any Man's just Praise, and do really believe that the Wonderful Victory obtain'd over the French, &c. is the Greatest History can shew us. I don't wonder now that his L——p was so great a Stickler against the Oc——l Bill. He is all Occasional himself, he loves the Rising side, and no doubt, may change again; for what has been, may be done again.* And all this is but in order to Trump up the Old Game. Last Year, the worst Word he could give the Duke of M—— was too good for him. But now the Case is alter'd, and he will not detract or lessen any Man's Just Praise, meaning his Grace's. I might possibly have believed him, had he not endeavour'd at an Encomium upon the Duke in this very Clause, whose Vertues he lessens, even by his Commendation of Him.

Sir George Rook's Victory over the French, with a Fleet so Unprovided, so Weakned, by five or six Dutch Ships being call'd Home a little before the Engagement, seems to me a Considerable Piece of Service. I'll warrant this great Spokesman, is far from detracting or lessening Sir George Rooke's just Praise too, at least wise he will say so. But let's look a little into his Words. Sir G. Rooke's Victory seems to me a Considerable Piece of Service. SEEMS, I cannot tell what he could have said less. What only *Seems* to be, may not be. After all, What does it *Seem* to this mighty Statesman? *A Considerable Piece of Service.* Not a Considerable Service, but a considerable piece of Service. A very slight Commendation of so Memorable an Action, as tho' it was hardly worth the Remembrance. His L——p being an Extraordinary lover of his Country, says, *He cannot Congratulate Sir Geo. Rooke's*

*Rooke's Entire Victory over the French, with a Fleet so unprovided and so weaken'd. I think he ought to do it the rather, because he was Unprovided and Weaken'd: The Marks and Characters of a Peculiar Providence are so plain and visible in that Success, that it would indeed be needhess to prove that God had a Favour unto him. What Caesar said, in Ostentation of himself (*Veni, vidi, vici,*) may well be apply'd to Sir Geo. Rooke upon this Occasion. He came, he saw the French Fleet, he fought them for some Time, till all his Ammunition was spent, and drove them before him, even when he had Nothing to Fight them with. But to say more would look like Flattery, and to say less would be Unjust.*

That the Navy of England is its Glory and its Guard, that it Protects our Trade, and secures our Coast, are Truths no Body is ignorant of, and therefore I shall not insist upon the whole of this Clause, but only observe one Expression which seems to Reflect not a little upon Her Majesty, and as it were Design'd to raise a Dissatisfaction in the Minds of her Subjects. Your L——ps, says our Orator, Recommended these two Heads to Her Majesty, in two Addresses last Session, full of Respect and yet very Pressing, but we have been so far from receiving the Fruits we expected from your L——ps Care, that whoever will but take a View of what was done last Summer, will see our Coasts left Naked, and our Trade expos'd, St. Paul Riding in the Channel, and our Merchants so far from being Protected, that even our Men of War are taken in our Soundings. Now what is all this but to tell the Subjects that the Queen would not hearken to the Advice of her Lords? Is it not a Reflection on Her Majesty, as tho' all the Misfortunes which befell us (if there were any) are owing to our most Gracious Queen (I believe he would say if he durst, Ill) Conduct. This, I suppose, is the heavy Complaint he mentions in the first Paragraph of this excellent S——ch. But supposing it true, I cannot imagine what he would infer from it, unless to have Her Majesty call'd to an Account for it: And I think no other Inference can be made from it. Which would be, in plain Terms, to follow Old Oliver Cromwell's Example, and Revive the Game of Forty One in 1704. and I must confess some Words in the next Clause smell very Rank of it. While our Trade is thus neglected; and your L——ps faithful and provident Advice Baffled by the Dark Councils of no Body knows who; England, in my Opinion, can never be Safe. Who those Dark Councillors are, I know not, but 'tis easy to imagine he means some of Her Majesty's Cabinet. Thus in Forty One the Blows light on the King's Minister, but the Aim of those who gave them, was at

at the King Himself. But how is our Trade neglected? He tells us by leaving our Coasts naked, and sending our Fleets into the *Mediterranean*. Now who Advis'd that, K. W's Council can best account for. The Design was laid before Her Majesty came to the Crown, and I hope his L——p will not be angry with the Queen for following her Brother's Councils, since he was so Successful in them!

Our Orator, in the next Paragraph, to shew that he loves Her Majesty, and wishes well to Her Government, tells us that the Exportation of Coin is a Burthen to the Nation, and *if it be much longer continued and allowed, we shall have very little left at Home*. I wonder this Noble P——r did not find out this Grievance before now. He could wink at the Exportation of 72 Millions, under the Reign of a King of a Modern Contract, tho' he cannot bear the thoughts that the twentieth Part should be Exported, under the Reign of an *Intirely English STUART*; altho' to support the same Common Cause, and maintain the Ballance of *Europe*.

The last Thing, says this Worthy Man, *I shall mention to your L——ps is with Relation to Scotland*. And I think he had much better have let it alone, for I am sure he deserves no Thanks for his Pains; for what he says serves to no other Purpose but to foment Disquiet, and sow Discord between the Two Nations. What greater Affront could he have put upon the Ministry of *Scotland*, than to call it a *Morly Ministry*, and to term their *Act of Security* a *Bill of Exclusion*? But supposing it really so, 'tis but what some among us Prefer'd in King *Charles the Second's* Reign, tho' they did not obtain their Ends till 88. However to make amends for the Ills he has said of the *Scots* before, he hangs out his Flag of Truce, p. 4 and begins to sing his Palinode. 'Tis certain, says he, *the Nobility and Gentry are as Learned and Brave, as any Nation in Europe can Boast of; and these are generally discontented. And as for the Common People, they are very Numerous and very Stout, but very Poor: And who is that Man who can Answer what such a Multitude, so Arm'd, so Disciplin'd, with such Leaders, may do, &c.* Surely the *Scots* will return this Gentleman Thanks for his Commendation of them. *Sed Quorsum hac*, O! to prepossess the Lords against the *Bill* to prevent *Occasional Conformity*, which the truly Loyal and Orthodox *House of Commons* are preparing to send to them for their Concurrence; and I hope we shall soon experience their L——ps Affection to the Queen and Her Government, and the *Church of - England* by Law Establish'd, by their Assenting to it.